

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| | : | Examiner: Amelia L. Rutledge |
| HIROSHI TANIOKA |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: 2176 |
| Application No.: 10/697,983 |) | |
| | : | |
| Filed: October 31, 2003 |) | |
| | : | |
| For: IMAGE PROCESSING |) | |
| APPARATUS, IMAGE | : | |
| PROCESSING METHOD AND |) | |
| STORAGE MEDIUM | : | October 31, 2007 |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
AND REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

Sir:

Prior to further examination of the above-identified application for which a Request for Continued Examination is being filed concurrently herewith, and in response to the final Office Action dated October 3, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows: